UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.2/50/L.77
8 December 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fiftieth session
SECOND COMMITTEE
Agenda item 95 (e)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990s

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/50/L.72

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.72, the General Assembly would: "Emphasize the importance of the annual reviews by the Trade and Development Board of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and the pressing need for enabling representatives of the least developed countries to participate in such annual reviews, and to that end request the Secretary-General to defray the cost of participation of representatives of least developed countries by mobilizing extrabudgetary resources for that purpose and by reallocating existing resources of the regular budget, if required".

2. The above request is related to major programme IV (International economic cooperation for development), programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes), subprogramme 1 (Least developed countries) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. 1/ It is also related to section 10A (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), programme 15 (Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes), subprogramme 1 (Least developed countries) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. 2/

3. It is understood that this request would involve the payment of travel and subsistence expenses to one representative from each least developed country, and as such would constitute an exception to the rules governing payment of travel and subsistence allowances in respect of members of principal organs of the United Nations and subsidiary bodies.

95-39484 (E) 081295 091295

/...

4. The cost of the participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the meetings specified above is estimated at $433,000.

5. In accordance with the proposal that extrabudgetary resources should be mobilized, the Secretary-General intends to seek additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Participation of Least Developed Countries in Intergovernmental Meetings, which was established in 1995 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/98, in order to meet the travel requirements for the participation of one representative from each least developed country at the annual meetings of the Trade and Development Board.

6. It would not be possible to reallocate resources from other areas of the regular budget, as resources have been budgeted for programmed activities under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997.

7. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/50/L.72: (a) an exception would have to be made to the rules governing the payment of travel and subsistence expenses to members of principal organs of the United Nations and subsidiary bodies; and (b) it would be the intention of the Secretary-General to mobilize extrabudgetary resources under the Trust Fund for the Participation of Least Developed Countries in Intergovernmental Meetings so as to finance the travel requirements of one representative from each least developed country for participating at the annual meetings of the Trade and Development Board.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

2/ Ibid., Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/50/6/Rev.1), vol. I.